

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

106th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 16

February 9, 1999, 1:42 p.m.
Page S-1388 Temp. Record

CLINTON IMPEACHMENT/Begin Closed Session Debate

SUBJECT: Impeachment trial of William Jefferson Clinton for perjury and obstruction of justice. Lott motion to go into closed session to debate the articles of impeachment.

ACTION: MOTION AGREED TO, 53-47

SYNOPSIS: On December 19, 1998, the House of Representatives impeached (indicted) President Clinton for perjury and obstruction of justice based on his actions and statements in relation to a Federal civil rights sexual harassment lawsuit that was filed against him by a former employee, Paula Corbin Jones. Ms. Jones alleged that in 1991, when she was an Arkansas State employee, then-Arkansas Governor Clinton exposed himself to her in a crude sexual advance which she refused, and that she subsequently and consequently suffered numerous adverse employment actions and was defamed. During the discovery phase of the lawsuit, the presiding judge ordered President Clinton to answer under oath certain questions posed by Ms. Jones' attorneys regarding any history he had of involvement in sexual relationships with State or Federal employees (such lines of questioning in sexual harassment lawsuits are a common means of establishing whether patterns of similar sexual harassment exist, including patterns of reward and punishment based upon the responses of subordinate employees to sexual advances). Those questions, which were posed in January, 1998, included questions regarding his relationship with a former White House intern, Monica Lewinsky (President Clinton had met Ms. Lewinsky and had begun a relationship with her when she was an intern). Later, in August, 1998, Ms. Lewinsky testified before a Federal grand jury, under a grant of immunity, regarding an affidavit she had filed in the *Jones* case. She gave detailed testimony and provided extensive corroborating physical evidence of a sexual relationship with the President. The President also testified before that grand jury in August. His testimony concerned his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky, his testimony before the Federal court in the sexual harassment lawsuit, and actions he took and statements he made before and after testifying in that lawsuit. The House impeachment of the President for obstruction of justice is based on numerous charges that he illegally tried to conceal the nature of his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky from the Federal court and the grand jury, and its impeachment of him for perjury is based on charges of numerous perjurious statements in his grand jury testimony, including

(See other side)

YEAS (53)		NAYS (47)		NOT VOTING (0)	
Republicans (53 or 96%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (2 or 4%)	Democrats (45 or 100%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (0)
Abraham	Helms	Hutchison	Akaka	Kennedy	
Allard	Hutchinson	Specter	Baucus	Kerrey	
Ashcroft	Inhofe		Bayh	Kerry	
Bennett	Jeffords		Biden	Kohl	
Bond	Kyl		Bingaman	Landrieu	
Brownback	Lott		Boxer	Lautenberg	
Bunning	Lugar		Breaux	Leahy	
Burns	Mack		Bryan	Levin	
Campbell	McCain		Byrd	Lieberman	
Chafee	McConnell		Cleland	Lincoln	
Cochran	Murkowski		Conrad	Mikulski	
Collins	Nickles		Daschle	Moynihan	
Coverdell	Roberts		Dodd	Murray	
Craig	Roth		Dorgan	Reed	
Crapo	Santorum		Durbin	Reid	
DeWine	Sessions		Edwards	Robb	
Domenici	Shelby		Feingold	Rockefeller	
Enzi	Smith, Bob		Feinstein	Sarbanes	
Fitzgerald	Smith, Gordon		Graham	Schumer	
Frist	Snowe		Harkin	Torricelli	
Gorton	Stevens		Hollings	Wellstone	
Gramm	Thomas		Inouye	Wyden	
Grams	Thompson		Johnson		
Grassley	Thurmond				
Gregg	Voinovich				
Hagel	Warner				
Hatch					

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

charges of perjury regarding his relationship with Ms. Lewinsky and his efforts to obstruct justice in the sexual harassment case against him.

After the failure of a motion to suspend the rules in order to permit debate in open session on the articles of impeachment (see vote No. 15), Senator Lott moved to go into closed session.

NOTE: Had the Lott motion failed, no open or closed session debate would have been in order, and, pursuant to the terms of S.Res. 30 (see vote No. 8), the Senate would have immediately voted on the articles of impeachment.

After the vote, the Senate agreed to a motion offered by Senator Lott to permit each Senator, should he or she so choose, to submit into the Congressional Record any statement he or she made during closed, final session deliberations on the articles. Any colloquies or references to statements made by other Senators would require the consent of all the Senators involved before they could be placed into the Congressional Record.

No argument or debate occurred on the motion.